

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please make the following changes at the indicated locations in the English translation of the specification:

Page 1, lines 7 to 10, please make the following changes in the paragraph between these lines:

The present invention relates to ~~is based on~~ a handheld power saw having a coupling means for retaining and driving a saw blade and a guide assembly for guiding an oscillating motion of the saw blade ~~as generically defined by the preamble to claim 1, to a handheld power saw as generically defined by the preamble to claim 7~~ having a contact element for bracing the housing on a workpiece and a saw blade, movable in oscillating fashion in a first direction with at least one cutting edge pointing in a working direction, and to a saw blade for a handheld power saw, having an oscillatory drive mechanism and a retention region, which is intended for connection with a coupling means of the handheld power saw ~~as generically defined by the preamble to claim 12.~~

Page 1, lines 21 to 23, please make the following changes in the paragraph between these lines:

These objects and others, which will be made more apparent hereinafter, are attained in ~~The invention is based on a~~ handheld power saw, having a coupling means for retaining and driving a saw blade, and having a guide assembly for guiding an oscillating motion of the saw blade.

Page 1, line 25, to page 2, line 7, please make the following changes in the paragraph between these lines:

According to the invention ~~It is proposed that the~~ guide means includes at least one lateral bracing means for shielding the coupling means from shear forces acting on the saw blade. As a result, a secure hold of the coupling means even at major shear forces can be assured, so that in particular it becomes possible to make the handheld power saw usable in a simple, economical way for the use of especially long saw blades, especially blades for back saws. The coupling means is shielded from forces acting on it ~~Forces acting on the coupling means can be shielding against,~~ so that the coupling means can be designed especially inexpensively. It can also be attained that the saw blade on being installed or secured ~~is guided to the coupling means~~ is guided by the lateral bracing means. Greater comfort can be gained thereby. This last advantage is especially important in self-clamping coupling means, since in that case, because of the guidance properties of the lateral

bracing means, blind installation, or installation without visual contact on the part of the user with the coupling means can be achieved.

Page 7, line 23, to page 8, line 3, please make the following changes in the paragraph between these lines based on the disclosures in applicants' figures:

The guide assembly 14a includes a pressure roller 52a, supported in sliding fashion on a bolt 50a, and a pressure bolt 68a for guiding the saw blade 12a in the direction 26a of the oscillating motion 16a of the saw blade 12a~~[[.]], which~~~~The direction 26a~~ corresponds to a longitudinal direction of the saw blade 12a. The pressure bolt 68a extends through a longitudinally extending recess 110a in a guide region 42a of the saw blade 12a and bears on an edge 114a of the saw blade 12a in the recess 110a, when the saw blade 12a is driven in its oscillating motion 16a. The pressure roller 52a is arranged to bear on an edge 112a of the saw blade 12a in the guide region 42a, which is located on a side of the saw blade 12a that is opposite to the side on which a cutting edge 30a is arranged (fig. 7).

\_\_\_\_The guide assembly 14a also includes two bracing means 18a, which in the installed state of the saw blade 12a are located mirror-symmetrically beside the saw blade 12a when the saw blade 12a is

driven in its oscillating motion. The bracing means 18a are provided for guiding the saw blade 12a in a plane of the saw blade 12a and for shielding the coupling means 10a of the handheld power saw from shear forces acting on the saw blade 12a perpendicular to its two-dimensional extent.